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**NEWS From:**

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**Congressman Mike Honda**

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**FIFTEENTH DISTRICT - CALIFORNIA**

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**Sen. Ensign, Rep. Honda Convene Congressional Panel to  
Discuss the U.S. Government's Role in Development of Wireless Internet**

**Washington, DC**—Today, U.S. Senator John Ensign (R-NV) and U.S. Congressman Mike Honda (D-San Jose) convened the first in a series of panels comprised of industry leaders and policy experts to discuss whether the U.S. is lagging behind in the rollout of advanced wireless services and its effect on domestic consumer demand. The event was sponsored by the Congressional Internet Caucus Advisory Committee, in conjunction with the Congressional Internet Caucus' Wireless Task Force, a bipartisan, bicameral panel recently formed by Ensign and Honda designed to educate Members of Congress about issues confronting the evolution of the U.S. wireless marketplace. The program also included demonstrations of current wireless devices and advanced wireless services in use throughout the world.

**"By fostering discussions between policymakers and industry leaders, the Wireless Task Force seeks to shed light upon the challenges confronting the evolution of America's wireless industry,"** said Honda. **"I am hopeful that today's event will better prepare Congress to create an intelligent national broadband policy with a comprehensive wireless strategy."**

The program featured comments from Ensign and Honda, who co-chair the Congressional Internet Caucus Wireless Taskforce. The panelists included domestic and international wireless experts with specific knowledge of wireless device manufacturing, wireless consumer demand, wireless culture, and wireless platforms and markets in the U.S., Europe and the Pacific Rim. The panel, moderated by Gerry Waldron of Covington & Burling, included Rudy Baca of the Precursor Group, Chris Hare of DigitWireless, David Jeppsen of NTT DoCoMo and Daniel Meredith of Vodafone. The Wireless Task Force, which was formed by Ensign and Honda in February 2002, is planning additional events this year.

**"Policymakers must create an environment that allows the U.S. wireless and technology industry to reach its potential,"** added Honda. **"The promise of 3G technologies and services will not be fully realized in this country without an intense and concerted effort by both industry and government to make sure that every community has affordable, high-speed access to the wireless Internet."**